

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DPW-01 IO-13 NEA-10 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01

/150 W

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R 150436Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO C/SECSTATE WASHDC 7101

USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC

USDEL FPIMT

UNCLAS SAIGON 16457

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, VS,VN

SUBJECT: PRESS RELEASE ON FPJMT IMPASSE

1. EMBASSY DISTRIBUTED TO LOCAL PRESS COPRPS THIS MORNING

FOLLOWING

STATEMENT:

2. QUOTE STATEMENT BY CHIEF, US DELEGATION, FPJMT, ON REFUSAL
OF DRV/PRG DELEGATIONS TO TAKE POSITIVE ACTION. THE US
DELEGATION TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM (FPJMT)
ISSUED A STATEMENT TODAY SUMMARIZING THE LACK OF PROGRESS
IN THIS WEEK'S NEGOTIATING SESSIONS. THE DRV AND PRG DELEGATIONS
CONTINUE TO REFUSE TO TAKE ANY POSITIVE ACTION TO PROVIDE
INFORMATION ON MISSING PERSONNEL OR TO FACILITATE THE REPATRIATION
OF THE REMAINS OF POW'S WHO DIED IN CAPTIVITY OR THE REMAINS
OF THOSE WHO WERE KILLED IN ACTION. ARTICLE 8 (B) OF THE
PARIS AGREEMENT SPECIFICALLY REQUIRES THAT ALL PARTIES TO
THE AGREEMENT HELP EACH OTHER TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION
ABOUT MIA'S AND REPATRIATE THE REMAINS OF THE DEAD. ON
SEPTEMBER 7 DR. KISSINGER, APPEARING BEFORE THE SENATE
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FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, POINTED OUT THE SLOW COMPLIANCE

OF THE DRV WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 8 (B).

3. IN BOTH SESSIONS THIS WEEK, THE US AND RVN DELEGATIONS PROPOSED A SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES WHICH INCLUDED THE IMMEDIATE EXCHANGE OF MIA INFORMATION AND REPATRIATION OF US REMAINS. IN REPLY THE DRV AND PRG DELEGATIONS SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT THERE COULD NOT BE PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 8 (B) UNLESS THERE WAS PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT.

4. THE RVN DELEGATION TOOK A MAJOR STEP TOWARD ATTEMPTING TO BREAK THE PRESENT IMPASSE IN THURSDAY'S MEETING BY ANNOUNCING THAT AN INCREMENTAL LIST OF PRG SOLDIERS KILLED IN ACTION AND BURIED BY THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE PRG BY THE END OF THE WEEK. THE CHIEF OF THE RVN DELEGATION EMPHASIZED THAT THIS INITIATIVE WAS "COMPLETELY WITHOUT CONDITIONS" AND VOICED HIS HOPE THAT THIS ACTION WOULD LEAD TO RAPID PROGRESS IN FACILITATING THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION REGARDING STATUS OF ALL PERSONS MISSING IN ACTION.

5. IN RESPONSE TO THE RVN INITIATIVE, THE PRG AND DRV DELEGATES LAUNCHED INTO A SERIES OF PREPARED STATEMENTS ACCUSING BOTH THE US AND RVN GOVERNMENTS OF FAILING TO OBSERVE THE PROVISIONS OF BOTH THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE. DUE TO THE LENGTHY NATURE OF THESE STATEMENTS, NO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS OF ARTICLE 8 (B) OR THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES WERE CONDUCTED DURING THE THREE-HOUR SESSION.

6. THE FPJMT IS SCHEDULED TO MEET AGAIN ON TUESDAY.
18 SEPTEMBER 1973.
APPLING

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